



Don't Just Learn to Drive, Learn to Drive Safe!

10 Tips to Safe Driving

- 1 Be sure to come to **COMPLETE STOPS**. You will know you have stopped completely when a fixed object outside the vehicle is stationary. Also, know the proper stopping point at all stop signs.
- 2 Maintain an **ADEQUATE GAP** between your vehicle and any vehicle in front of you. While moving, maintain a three second gap. While stopped, be certain that you can see the rear wheels of the vehicle ahead of you touching the ground.
- 3 Maintain proper **HAND POSITION** and use proper steering technique. Keep your hands at “**9 and 3**” or “**8 and 4**” and use the **Hand-over-Hand** or **Push-Pull** method when turning.
- 4 Do not exceed the posted **SPEED LIMIT** and be particularly careful not to speed in school and construction zones.
- 5 **SEARCH** properly and consistently. Look left and right when approaching intersections and initiating turns and be certain to check for oncoming or crossing vehicles. Always check your rear-view mirror for following traffic after going through an intersection.
- 6 Stay in the **PROPER LANE**, particularly when making turns. Use the lines on the road to guide you and avoid crossing solid lines.
- 7 Activate your **TURN SIGNAL** at least 3 seconds before changing lanes or executing a turn. If the turn signal does not turn off automatically, be sure to manually shut it off within 3 seconds of entering traffic.
- 8 Use “**SMOG**” for all lane changes, which stands for: **SIGNAL, MIRRORS, OVER-THE-SHOULDER, GO (when safe)**. Be sure to check your rear-view mirror for fast approaching traffic after you have completed your lane change.
- 9 Demonstrate your basic **DRIVING SKILLS** by accelerating, braking, and turning smoothly and evenly. Do not jerk the vehicle or ride the brakes.
- 10 **YIELD** properly at all intersections and always yield to pedestrians. Be sure to stop whenever a pedestrian is in any crosswalk that is in your path of travel.

*These tips are shared as a courtesy of DriveSafe Driving Schools. The DMV may change the requirements at any time. Proper preparation and knowledge of the laws is the responsibility of the person testing.

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